

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are pending in the case after entry of the present Amendment. Claims 5-12 are newly added.

35 U.S.C. § 102:

Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Chi et al. (US Patent 5,075,801 [hereafter “Chi”]).

An exemplary aspect of the present invention is to provide a magnetic transfer master carrier capable of transferring servo signals to a desired position on front and back sides of a magnetic disk medium. This may be done through a positioning portion, such as, for example, a mark, a cut-out portion, a notch, a protruded portion or the like.

The Examiner contends that Figure 4 of Chi teaches a pair of magnetic transfer master carriers including a front master carrier and a back master carrier for magnetically transferring servo signals to each of a front side and a back side of a magnetic disk medium. In doing so, the Examiner relies on Chi (col. 1, line 61- col. 2, line 9; and col. 6, line 57- col. 7, line 8) for allegedly teaching a master and slave device that creates a magnetic pattern or a servo pattern in the media by magnetically transferring the information.

To expedite prosecution, Applicant further defines the positioning portion of claim 1 by reciting that the positioning portion designates a predetermined rotational relationship between the front master carrier and the back master carrier by providing a physical feature respectively on a portion of the front master carrier and the back master carrier along a first radial direction, which distinguishes said portion from another portion along a second radial direction of the front master carrier and back master carrier, respectively.

Similarly, claim 4 is amended to recite that the positioning portion designates a predetermined rotational relationship between the magnetic disk medium and the master carriers by providing a physical feature on a portion of the magnetic disk medium along a first radial direction, which distinguishes said portion from another portion along a second radial direction of the magnetic disk medium.

The spindle and center holes of the master disks 47 and 51 in Chi do not designate a predetermined rotational relationship, nor is there disclosure in Chi of any physical feature, as recited in claims 1 and 4. For example, the applied holes in Chi are disclosed as being circular with no physical feature on any portion, along a first radial direction of the master disks 47 and 51, which distinguishes that portion from another portion along a second radial direction of the master disks. Therefore, one could not distinguish between a first rotational positioning of the master disks 47 and 51 and a second rotational positioning of the master disks (e.g., where one disk is rotated in relation to the other). Likewise, Chi fails to disclose a physical feature provided on a portion of a magnetic disk medium, onto which servo signals are transferred, which distinguishes the portion from another portion along a second radial direction of the magnetic disk medium, as in claim 4.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that Chi fails to disclose each feature recited in claims 1 and 4, such that the rejection thereof under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) should be withdrawn. The rejection of claims 2 and 3 should likewise be withdrawn at least by virtue of these claims depending from claim 1.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application No. 10/823,638

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NEW CLAIMS:

Applicant adds new claims 5-12 to obtain more varied protection. The new claims are deemed allowable at least due to their respective dependencies on claims 1 and 4.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

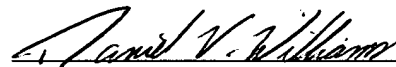
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